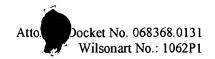
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ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A multi-directional laminate flooring panel for use in constructing a floor, the panel comprising: a top surface, a bottom surface and sides extending between the top and bottom surfaces, wherein the sides have identical grooved profiles. directional laminate flooring system comprising: at least two panels, wherein each panel comprises a top surface, a bottom surface and sides extending between the top and bottom surfaces, wherein the sides have identical recessed profiles; and a connector separate from the at least two panels for connecting the at least two panels together to form a floor. A method for constructing a flooring surface, the method comprising: mating a connector with a groove of a first panel, wherein the first panel has a top surface, a bottom surface and sides extending between the top and bottom surfaces, wherein each side has a groove; positioning a second panel in the same plane as the first panel, wherein the second panel has a top surface, a bottom surface and sides extending between the top and bottom surfaces, wherein each side has a groove; and mating the connector with a groove of the second panel while the first and second panels are in the same plane, wherein the mated connector is below the top surfaces of the first and second panels.